

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL NAHA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO CINCPAC

COGARD

TREASURY

GOV GUAM

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 29 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA/THAILAND

WSTAR'S BRADSHAW (1/28) REVIEWS MARTIN'S TUESDAY TESTIMONY BEFORE HIRC INVESTIGATIONS SUBCMTE, INCLUDING AMB'S LAYING OFF LAME SVN FALL TO US CRITICS, CONGRESSIONAL AID CUT. SAYS ASSERTIONS MET WITH SOME DISBELIEF. NOTES LONG-DELAYED APPEARANCE HAD STRONG TONE SELF-JUSTIFICATION. RECALLS SOME FACETS AMB'S CONTROVERSIAL SAIGON TENURE.

SOURCES SAY ALGERIA HOSTS SMALL NUMBER NVIETS, CUBAN MIL MEN; SOVIET DIPLOMATS IN WASHINGTON CONCERNED GROWING MOROCCAN-ALGERIAN CONFLICT IN SPANISH SAHARA MAY STRAIN DETENTE (SUN).
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WP QUOTES RTG THAT MINE PLANTED BY COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS NEAR CAMBODIAN BORDER KILLED 3 BORDER POLICE; AP (NYDN) QUOTES THAI INTERIOR MINISTRY THAT MINE PLANTED BY CAMBODIAN TROOPS.

LAT'S MCARTHUR AT BANGKOK (1/28) NOTES PROLIFERATION
POLITICAL PARTIES AS THAI ELECTION CAMPAIGN GETS UNDER
WAY, WITH ISSUES OBSCURED BY CONFUSING ABUNDANCE CANDIDATES.
BELIEVES NEW ASSEMBLY WHEN ELECTED MAY RESEMBLE OLD
IN BEING SO FACTION-RIDDEN CANNOT FUNCTION. SEES
DOUBTFUL FUTURE FOR COUNTRY'S NEW DEMOCRATIC EXPERIMENT.

2. CHINA

THREE FORMER HIGH-RANKING CHINESE OFFICERS, FREED RECENTLY
BY PEKING, CROSSED BORDER INTO HK THURSDAY, ACCORDING
PRC GOVT SPOKESMAN. EARLIER IN DAY, NCNA REPORTED PEKING
HAD ALSO FREED THREE FORMER KUOMINTANG OFFICERS AND
THREE TAIWANESE AGENTS (REUTER HK).

SUN'S ISAACS (HK) REPORTS PRC RENEWING PROPAGANDA DRIVE
DEPICTING SOVIET AS CHIEF DANGER TO WORLD PEACE; LONG
TUESDAY PEOPLE'S DAILY COMMENTARY DENOUNCED "RULING
CLIQUE OF THE TWO SUPERPOWERS" -- SAID SOVIET CLEARLY
PURSUING MIL GAINS MORE AGGRESSIVELY.

WP REPORTS BELIEF IN BRUSSELS THAT PRC MOTIVES IN
SEEKING TIES WITH EEC ARE AS MUCH POLITICAL AS ECONOMIC,
SINCE EEC SEEN IN PEKING FOR SOME YEARS AS IMPORTANT
BUFFER AGAINST FURTHER EXPANSION "SOVIET SOCIAL
IMPERIALISM.' CITES SUGGESTIONS CHINESE WANT TRADE
TALKS WITH EEC UNDERWAY BEFORE COMECON EXTENDS OWN
LINKS WITH COMECON.

AP (TOKYO) CITES WEDNESDAY NCNA REPORT THAT HUNDREDS
OF THOUSANDS PEASANTS BRAVED WINTER COLD EACH YEAR,
DIGGING 3,000 MILES OF DITCHES, TO IRRIGATE 70 PCT OF
TIBETAN PLATEAU, WHICH BECAME SELF-SUFFICIENT IN GRAIN
PRODUCTION IN 1974 (NYDN).

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AP (TAIPEI) REPORTS ABOUT 123,500 AMERICANS VISITED TAIWAN
LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TOURISM CHIEF CHU KUO-HSUN (CSM).

NYT (DALLAS) SPECIAL SAYS TEXAS FIRM, E-SYSTEMS --
AWARDED 16.5 MILLION DOLS CONTRACT TO INSTALL SINAI
MONITORS -- YEAR AGO ACQUIRED AIR ASIA CO. LTD --
AIRCRAFT MODIFICATION/MAINTENANCE/SERVICING CONCERN
ON TAIWAN -- FOR UNDISCLOSED SUM.

3. JAPAN

SENATE WEDNESDAY PASSED MAGNUSON BILL BY 77-19 VOTE,
DESPITE DOS, DOD OPPOSITION. DEFERRED EFFECTIVE DATE
TO JULY 1, 1977, TO ALLOW TIME FOR LOS CONFERENCE

WORK OUT INTL AGREEMENT ON FISHERY ZONES (AP, NYDN;
REUTER, WP). BILL GOES TO CONFERENCE, TO RECONCILE
DIFFERENCES WITH STUDDS BILL THAT HOUSE PASSED OCTOBER,
PROVIDING ENFORCEMENT JULY 1, 1976 (WSJ).

BINDER (NYT) SAYS LEADING OPPONENT OF BILL, SEN
THURMOND (SC), SECURED PASSAGE OF AMENDMENT TO
DELAY ENFORCEMENT BY 93-2 VOTE, AFTER CONSULTING
WITH PRES FORD, WHO SAID WOULD SIGN IF BILL PROVIDED
LONGER GRACE PERIOD. NOTES BILL SUPPORTERS CHARGED IN
DEBATE THAT SOV, EUR, JAPANESE OVERFISHING STOCKS,
DECIMATE FIXED GEAR OF US FISHERMEN WITHOUT COMPENSATION
(ABRIDGED IN SUN).

WERMIEL (GLOBE) CITES DOS, DOD CONCERN THAT PASSAGE OF
BILL WILL INVITE RETALIATION, AND CRITICISM BILL
VIOLATES INTL LAW. SAYS SPONSORS OF TWO VERSIONS --
MAGNUSON, REP STUDDS -- HOPE CONFERENCE CMTE WILL
COMPROMISE ON EFFECTIVE DATE OF JAN 1, 1977.

JOC'S LEAH YOUNG NOTES SENS KENNEDY, BROOKE (BOTH MASS)
OPPOSED THURMOND AMENDMENT, CALLED FOR IMMEDIATE
CREATION OF 200-MILE FISHING ZONE. ALSO NOTES MAGNUSON
BILL WOULD ALLOW FOREIGN TRAWLERS CONTINUE FISHING OFF
US COAST, BUT WOULD LIMIT CATCH TO PORTION OF EXCESS
OVER US HARVEST, REQUIRE US LICENSE, US OBSERVER
ON BOARD.

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GM FILES SUIT AGAINST TOYOTA IN FEDERAL COURT, DAYTON,
O, CHARGING CATALYTIC CONVERTERS ON SOME MODELS SOLD
IN US INFRINGE GM PATENT FOR EMISSION CONTROL DEVICE.
SPOKESMAN SAID TOYOTA CONTINUED INFRINGE, EVEN AFTER
NOTIFIED WERE DOING SO; NOTED NISSAN USING GM PATENT,
UNDER LICENSING AGREEMENT. TOYOTA SPOKESMAN IN TORRANCE,
CALIF, DECLINED COMMENT BECAUSE HAD NOT READ COMPLAINT
(WSJ, DETROIT; UPI, JOC, WP). TOYOTA TOKYO SPOKESMAN
SAID FIRM 'INVESTIGATED AND RESTUDIED' MATTER "BUT
DIDN'T FIND ANY PROBLEM" (NYDN).

MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC ANNOUNCED THURSDAY WILL CONTRIBUTE
ONE MILLION DOLS TO MIT, TO ENDOW "MATSUSHITA PRO-
FESSORSHIP;" TO EXPAND RESEARCH IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
APPLICATIONS TO MEDICAL SCIENCES (REUTER OSAKA).

NIPPON KOKAN AWARDED 90 MILLION DOL CONTRACT TO BUILD
NATURAL GAS PIPELINE, DEHYDRATION FACILITIES, LIQUID
SEPARATION PLANT IN IRAQ. SPOKESMAN SAID FIRST
ORDER OF KIND AWARDED JAPANESE FIRM IN INTL BIDDING
IN ME (JOC).

NALCO CHEMICAL ANNOUNCES PURCHASE OF 40 PCT EQUITY

INTEREST IN HAKUTO CHEMICAL FOR CASH. WILL RENAME FIRM NALCO-HAKUTO. ANNUAL SALES ESTIMATED ABOUT 10 MILLION DOLS (WSJ, CHICAGO).

BISHOP (WSJ) CITES REPORT IN NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE BY JAPANESE DOING RESEARCH ON CORONARY ARTERY SPASMS, OF KIND CONFUSED WITH VARIANT ANGINA PECTORIS.

4. KOREA

ENERGY MINISTER GILLESPIE TOLD HOUSE OF COMMONS WEDNESDAY SK, CANADA HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS AFFECTING SALE NUKE REACTOR TO ROK. SAID AGREEMENT WILL BE ANNOUNCED NEXT WEEK BY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MIN MACEACHEN (REUTER OTTAWA).

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5. PHILIPPINES

MARCOS, IMELDA RETURN AFTER 3-DAY STATE VISIT SINGAPORE (REUTER MANILA).

6. SINGAPORE

"STRAITS TIMES" SAYS BOTH PHILS, SINGAPORE SHARE STRONG VIEWS THAT WITH DECLINE US INFLUENCE IN ASIA, RISING SINO-SOVIET CONFLICT, SECURITY REMAINS REGION'S MOST PRESSING PROBLEM (AP, LAT 1/28).

7. INDONESIA

GOI ORDERS 1219 NON-MIL TRUCKS FROM INTL HARVESTER FOR USE ROAD-BUILDING PROJECT (JOC).

8. PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

BOUGAINVILLE SECESSIONISTS HOLD PNG PATROL OFFICER UNDER "VILLAGE ARREST" AS PART INDEPENDENCE CAMPAIGN; SEVERAL GOVT EMPLOYEES TAKEN HOSTAGE IN REMOTE ISLAND DISTRICTS (WP). PNG, SECESSIONISTS ANNOUNCE TRUCE AFTER 3 DAYS TENSION, VIOLENT DEMONSTRATIONS; REPS BOTH SIDES EXPECTED MEET 1/29 (REUTER BOUGAINVILLE).

9. AUSTRALIA

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE AUSSIE URANIUM ORE RESERVES REPORTED (JOC). WHEAT BOARD SELLS PRC 700,000 TONS WHEAT, 600,000 TONS TO INDIA (REUTER MELBOURNE).

10. GENERAL

WSJ'S STABLER DOES ROUND-UP ON US BANKS' FOREIGN LOANS. POINTS OUT PRIVATE SECTOR LENDING DOESN'T FLOW IN ANY ANY QUANTITY TO VERY POOR NATIONS, BUT GOES TO RELATIVELY WELL-OFF BORROWERS INCLUDING, INTER ALIA, SK, TAIWAN, PHILS. NOTES SOME LENDING TO COMECON COUNTRIES, INCLUDING OUTER MONGOLIA. FINDS REPAYMENT RECORD ON INTL LOANS GENERALLY "SURPRISINGLY GOOD."
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11. INDOCHINA

LOFTON (SFCHRON 1/23) REVIEWS WESTMORELAND'S, "A SOLDIER REPORTS"; QUOTES HIM THAT STRATEGIC BLUNDER WHICH DOOMED US EFFORT WAS POLICY OF GRADUATED RESPONSE AGAINST NVN. WESTY CRITICIZES LBJ FOR FAILING LEVEL WITH US PUBLIC ABOUT EXTENT, NATURE OF SACRIFICE THAT HAD TO BE MADE IN VN; ADDS PRES SHOULD HAVE GONE BACK TO CONGRESS FOR REAFFIRMATION COMMITMENT, INSTEAD OF RELYING ON TONKIN GULF RESOLUTION. LOFTON BELIEVES WESTY ACHIEVES "OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS" VN WAR, FINDS BOOK WELL WORTH READING.

SUN'S WOODRUFF DEFENDS COLBY'S STATEMENT THAT VC SPENT SELVES AGAINST US FIREPOWER IN TET OFFENSIVE, THEN WERE BLEED BY PHOENIX PROGRAM AND WERE NEVER AGAIN SERIOUS CHALLENGE. RECOUNTS OWN OBSERVATIONS WHILE IN POST-TET SVN. POINTS OUT NVN REGULARS ENTERED WAR, LAST SPRING LAUNCHED CONVENTIONAL ATTACKS AGAINST INEPT ARVN. OPINES FINAL BATTLE NOT WON BY NVN SO MUCH AS CONCEDED BY SVN COMMANDERS WHO NEVER MEANT TO FIGHT. REBUTS GARRY WILLS' CRITICISM COLBY STATEMENT. CONCLUDES US "SHOT AWAY" MOST GUERRILLA LEADERS, DEEPENED FOR DECADES NVN DOMINATION SVN.

12. THAILAND

CSM CARRIES CENTER-PG SPREAD, WITH PHOTOS BY MATHENY, SHOWING SCENES THAI LIFE. COMMENT BY KILBORN RECOUNTS PROBLEMS FACED FOLLOWING INDOCHINA FALL. OBSERVES COUNTRY 'BENDS WITH THE WINDS,' REMAINS "LAND OF THE FREE" AS NAME SUGGESTS.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

13. JAPAN

STLP-D (1/14) NOTES SOV AGAIN REFUSED RETURN TO JAPAN FOUR ISLANDS OCCUPIED SINCE END WW II. SAYS GROMYKO WENT TOKYO TO OFFER SOMETHING SOUNDING LIKE
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ASIAN HELSINKI DOCUMENT, BUT MIYAZAWA RESPONDED THAT ISLANDS HARDLY COMPARABLE TO EUR BORDER SITUATION.

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AGREES JAPAN ;UNDERSTANDABLY" REFUSED SIGN AGREEMENT OR PEACE TREATY UNTIL SOV RETURNS ISLANDS, TO WHICH HAS NO HISTORICAL CLAIM, EXCEPT AS SPOILS OF WAR. DECLARES SUCH PHILOSOPHY "HAS NO PLACE IN MODERN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS" -- SUGGESTS IF US COULD RESOLVE OKINAWA QUESTION, SOV CAN SETTLE TERRITORIAL ISSUE IN INTEREST OF ASIAN STABILITY.

14. CHINA

JOC'S ALENA WELS NOTES CHASE MANHATTAN CONCLUDED LIMITED CORRESPONDENT RELATIONSHIP WITH BANK OF CHINA AFTER OPENING UP OF SINO-US TRADE IN 1971, AND OTHER US BANKS FOLLOWED. BUT FEELS CHANCES FOR EXTENDING RELATIONSHIP TO COMMERCIAL TRANSACTION THIS YEAR APPEAR BLEAK, ALTHOUGH; BANKS HOPEFUL OF BREAKTHROUGH BEFORE END OF DECADE AS PRC BECOMES INDUSTRIALIZED NATION. OBSERVES CHINESE, WHOSE COMMERCIAL DECISIONS OFTEN HIGHLY POLITICAL, ARE CAREFUL AVOID SHOWING FAVORITISM TOWARDS BANKS THEY DEAL WITH IN US. KKISSINGER

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